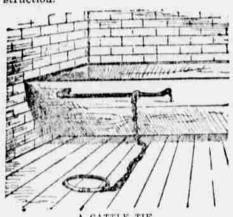
A Common Sense Ice House-The Bonanza Compost-Plants for Indoor Culture-How to Build a Cistern-New Fruits-In the Sheepfold.

In this day of pure bred stock, representing a big value in dollars and cents, the cattle tie becomes a subject of unusual importance. While the perfect cattle fastening has not perhaps been yet invented, the cut here given illustrates a safe contrivance and one that may be readily adopted because of its simple con-



In this an iron rod is bolted to the feed trough and on this slides a ring. To this ring is attached a steel chain or stout strap, provided with a leather head stall at one end. The ring sliding back and forth on the iron rod affords free movement to the animal without rendering the fastening less secure.

Digging Post Holes.

Digging holes for fence or gate posts is no longer the tedious, back breaking process it was in the



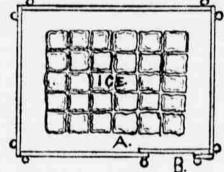
days of the short handled, old fashioned, square shovel. With the long handled, round pointed shovels and scoops for sale in every hardware store, one can dig the holes and set a dozen posts in about the same time it formerly took to set one.

Numbered with many inventions designed to lighten labor are post hole diggers. The one shown in the figure is

A POST HOLE DIGGER, known by the name "Eureka," and has proven perhaps as satisfactory as anything in this line. This consists of a double, round pointed shovel or spade, the two parts being connected like the two blades to a pair of pincers. In using this the digger is plunged into the soil some ten or twelve inches, and after the soil is well loosened the earth is compressed between the double shovel by the leverage afforded through the jointed handle, and the contents are lifted and dropped on the sur-

A Cheap Ice House.

An ice house may be made of any material or after any plan that insures an air tight foundation and sides, thorough drainage without admission of air from below, and good ventilation above the ice



GROUND PLAN OF ICE HOUSE.

When economy of labor and money is an object, make your ice house after the plan illustrated. Place two poles up at each corner, as in the cut, with an extrapole at one side of the front, to serve as one side of the door. Let the front posts. be a foot longer than the others to insure a slanting roof. A plate of light scantling secures the top in place. The bottom planks all around are nailed to the posts, which may be more firmly secured by cleats connecting with those at each corner. Now it is ready for the ice. First cover the bottom with a layer of

sawdust six inches deep; next put in the first tier of ice, keeping the blocks a foot distant from the plank wall; fill in the space with sawdust a; place a second tier of ice; next put in position more planks. and so on until the house is filled, storing the ice and carrying up the wall together and filling in with sawdust, as the work progresses. The planks need only be slightly nailed to keep them up when the ice is removed. When the house is full. a thick layer of the packing material is put on the top of the ice. Drainage is secured by placing the structure on slop-ing ground. The door is made by using two lengths of the plank on the front side as indicated by the posts in the cut.

A Word About Cisterns.

Dr. Kedzie, who is an excellent authority, claims that all cisterns should have an outlet pipe as well as an inlet pipe, and of the two the outlet is the more important.

He advises that the escape pipe extend to within half an inch of the lower part of the cistern, and be not more than two inches in diameter, while the entrance pipe is four inches. With this arrangement, he claims that when the cistern becomes full during a heavy rain the water is pressed out with force enough to carry with it all dirt and sediment that settles naturally in the lowest place in the cistern, along with the old, impure water. Put the outlet and inlet well down below the frost line, and make the neck long enough so the frost cannot enter.

Winter Management of Sheep.

Unless sheep are carefully provided for during the winter season in the north and east there is sure to be trouble and loss of flock; and, generally speaking, farmers provide sufficient shelter for their ever, ordinary buildings are frequently winter protection. out of the question, both from want of material and the funds wherewith to erect them. The flocks may be sheltered, under these circumstances, from the driv ing tempest of sleet or rain by means of walls semictreular in shape and consist- food for the peach orchard.

ing of stones roughly laid up or of sods piled five feet high. The outside of the curve must be placed toward the north or northwest, the direction from which prevailing storms blow. This plan is

often practiced on the western plains. On the ranches of Kansas, Nebraska Colorado and Wyoming, one sees in localities where the natural protection of ravines, groves of timber, etc. is not available, storm shelters of peculiar construction. Rude frameworks are made of poles sloping so as to protect from the northwest and east winds, and covered over with hay or straw. This covering proves acceptable during protracted storms both as a source of food and pro-

The Farmer's Bonanza.

A well constructed compost heap is the farmer's bonanza. We do not mean special purpose composts, but those made for general purpose—those where every particle of solid and liquid manure, leaves, heap the provident farmer garners and cised in the matter.-Jewelers' Circular. stores that which ins tres his success for a future season. By all means make your compost heap under cover. A good be-ginning is formed by a thick layer of dry soil, vegetable refuse or the like.

The compost heap should be laid in even layers and each layer go over the entire heap, for thus only can final uniformity be had. The vegetable matter is an element of the compost heap often overlooked. though a valuable one. Sods, weeds, litter from the wood pile and refuse from the kitchen are the valuable adjuncts, as is the dish water and other slops.

The fermentation induced by the barn yard manure and the action of the lime and ashes added, works upon the vegetable matter and develops an admirable quality of plant food. Establish the rule of composting everything of manurial value and the result will be an abundance of farm made fertilizer at all times and for all

New Fruits of Promise.

The early white grape, "Empire State," a scedling of the "Hartford Prolific" fertilized with the "Clinton," is attracting favorable notice. The bunches are large, with berries medium to large in size, with color white with a light tinge of yellow, and covered with a thick white bloom. This grape ripens very early, the vine is

hardy, vigorous and productive.
The "Harly Harvest" blackberry is re ceiving good reports from both north and south. Professor Munson, of Texas, prononnees it a bonanza for Texas and the south generally.

The "Industry" gooseberry, according to as good authority as Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry, has come to revolutionize gooseberry culture in this country.

A new quince claiming attention is called the "Champion." This ripens about two weeks later than the "Orange," and is said to keep until Christmas.

Among newcomers in raspberries that promise well is the "Rancocas." The strong points claimed for it are earliness. strong growth, hardiness and productive-

Care of House Plants.

Numbered with plants best for indoor cultivation are geraniums, fuchsias, arbutus, carnations, callias, beliotropes, gloximas, begonias, cactuses, petunias and some species of the palm family. These are called robust, self reliant plants, not requiring coaxing or any

Watering is an important item. A good general rule is not to apply moisture till the surface of the soil appears dry; then give enough water to thoroughly moisten all the soil in the pot. The calla being a semi aquatic plant requires water

Keep your plants clean; when sweeping or dusting cover with paper or a thin muslin sheet. Turn the pots around at least every week, to prevent the plants from becoming one sided; they will lean to the light and soon become ill shaped braiding is in lyre pattern. High military without this attention. If you want a collar, plant to branch and become bushy pinch it off at the top; this wll induce branches to start at the sides up and down the stalk.

The Siberian Stone Pine.

Though we have as yet no large trees of this pine in the west we have the best reason for believing that it will prove eminently valuable as an ornamental and timber tree, and also as a nut bearing tree. On the dry steppes of eastern Russia, where most other conifers fall, it is grown largely for its fine grained, soft and fragrant timber, which is used all over the world for carving and for its edible nuts which are found for sale in every grocery and on all trains. It is also a favorite tree in public and private parks and for avenues in about all parts of east Europe. In expression it has something of the graceful, light colored foliage of the white pine with the density and pyramidal habit of our red pine.

We have found it specially easy to grow from seed, as the little plants shoot up from the large nuts as vigorously as corn. and are not easy to sunburn or liable to "damp off." Commercially the seeds may be obtained cheaply and in any quantity.-J. L. B. in Iowa Register.

The Hen House Floor,

Absorb the moisture. Dry street dirt will readily act as an absorbent. Every week clean up the floor of the house, placing the manure in barrels. After the manure has been removed give the floor a good sprinkling with dry road dust. If one has no garden or lawn, or if he has plenty of other fertilizers, he can sell his hen manure for 40 or 50 cents per bushel to the tanners. In such a case, however, instead of being mixed with earth, it must be kept pure. Some poultrymen derive quite a revenue from their sales of the droppings for tanning purposes, and find it convenient to have shelves arranged under the perches, which are regularly scraped every morning. Hen manure must not be allowed to decompose or ferment before being sent to the tanner, as its value is thus destroyed.

Facts Farmers Ought to Know.

In purchasing hens select carefully from well known yards, to avoid the introduction of diseases and lice into flocks.

Experiments made at the Michigan Agricultural college make it appear that the ashes of corn cobs have a value as manure of \$2.50 per 100 pounds, which is more than twice that of hard wood or of wood ashes.

Progressive cultivators in the northwestern states succeed in growing fair flocks. At the south and southwest, how- crops of peaches every year by giving

> Paranips may be left in the ground through the winter.

> Ground bone and kainit with some

REDFERN GOWNS, A FUR PLASTRON AND CHILD'S CLOAK.

One of the New Style Polonaises-The New Watch Chain-Young Lady's Fur Cap-Pretty Cloak for a Child-"The Bugler." -The New Watch Chain.

The Queen continues to lead in watch chains for ladies' wear, but a new style is shortly to be introduced by a well known manufacturing firm that will furnish a change to the present popular fashion. The new chain is quite short, with a swivel for the watch at one end and a small pin at the other with which to fasten it to the corsage; while from this pin hangs a chain of equal length with the main one on which to wear charms. The originators of this new chain have not yet christened the newcomer, but as litter, weeds, are worked together into a they named the popular Queen, little fear is uniform fine mass. In such a compost entertained that good taste will not be exer-

Children's Hose.

Children's hose show some very desirable improvements. A new idea is a very closely ribbed stripe around the leg, above the calf, which serves as a garter. English boys and girls are wearing this style very generally for ordinary occasions and for school hose. They are heavy and strong, and are likely to meet with the approval of American mothers. Children's hose in general are greatly improved. All points of excellence possible to introduce are found in the present stocks. There are boot hose with white feet of thick soft cotton that are much more pleasant for ome children than those that are all black. Woolen hose have cotton feet for the same enson. Silk spliced heels and ankles are shown in silk, cashmere and fine cotton hose for girls and children.-Demorest's Monthly.

Redfern Gowns.

In the first illustration our readers will find models from two original Redfern designs. They are characterized by the elegant simplicity which is so perfectly suited to tailor

Fig. 1 on the left shows one of the handome polonaise costumes that are again in fashion. It is a suit of fawn colored homespun cloth trimmed with brown velvet. The lower skirt is plain. The polonaise is closed at the front in the skirt, and has the panel of brown velvet set in. Yoke collar and pointed uffs of the velvet. The opening in the waist is on the left side, sloping towards the front, buttoned underneath and trimmed with rich brown braiding over the waist opening and on the sleeves. Bonnet of the fawn colored homespun and velvet of the dress,



F1G. 2. F10. 1. Fig. 2 shows a unique little coat called "The Bugler." It is cut V shaped at the breast to show the braided vest beneath. The

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Child's Cloak.

A pretty little sacque for a girl baby 3 to 6 years old. For children vounger than that the Mother Hubbard pattern is generally chosen.

This little paletot is cut very long in the waist behind. tern, with a plait laid over in the back seam to give fullness. This clouk is handsome-made of plush or velvet. The little miss in her lace cap likewise looks very dainty If her cloak

CHILD'S CLOAK. is of astrakhan cloth. Rough wool goodmay also be used.

Fur Cap and Plastron. The young lady in her fur cap, with fur plastron and muff, looks jaunty and pretty.



The plasfron can easily be cut to fit over the waist. Make a proper pattern the exact the waist. Make a proper pattern the start County Superintendent of Public Schools size and shape first, then cut the for and lining. Pieces of fur carefully joined will not show the seams. For the cap, a frame of stiff foundation or wire can be got an I the furmuriate of potash makes a good plant fitted over it, if a fur enpaiready made can not be obtained. Must to mut be

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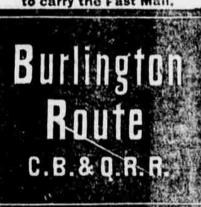
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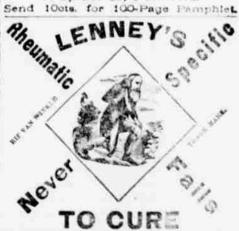
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